

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 10/019,601 Examiner Katarzyna Wyrozebski	Applicant(s) LINDNER, MATHIAS Art Unit 1714
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 10/10/2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. The drawings filed on 27 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 1004.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Simkanich on October 13, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 11. (Currently amended) A process for manufacturing a long-fibre reinforced thermoplastic material comprising the steps of guiding a fibre skein through a first extruder, wherein the fiber skein is impregnated with a first thermoplastic material, guiding the impregnated fiber skein through a second extruder, wherein a second thermoplastic material is applied on the impregnated fibre skein and wherein the temperature applied during the second extruding is at least for a short time higher than the melting point of the thermoplastic material with the highest melting point, and wherein the fibers are wetted essentially by only one of the thermoplastic materials, which is present in the manufactured reinforced material with at least 10% by weight, and wherein the first and second extruders and the fibre skein are assembled sequentially.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A method according to anyone of claims 11 or 12 characterized in that following impregnation of the fibers with the first thermoplastics material and following a shaping and solidification step, the material is broken up into smaller sections, the length of which corresponds in magnitude to the average length of the fibers, wherein these broken up sections are mixed with the second material possibly heated, and together subjected to shaping.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Supplemental amendment submitted on 10/11/2004 the applicants amended product claims to depend on previously allowed process claim. In view of the above amendment pending claims are passed to issue.

In the previous office action the examiner indicated that the process claims are allowable since the prior art of record does not teach specific equipment arrangement and process where the fibers are treated in one extruder with first thermoplastic and in second extruder with second thermoplastic. The prior art of record utilizes one extruded where the fibers are treated with thermoplastic composition.

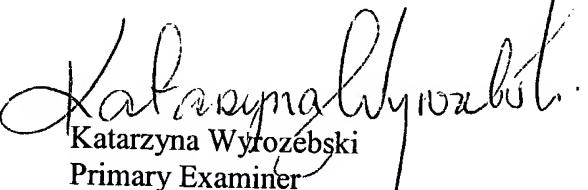
The examiner indicated also that the claim identifiers for claims 11 and 13 are not correct and in order to complete the prosecution of the application an examiner's amendment is issued in order to place these two claims in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katarzyna Wyrozebski whose telephone number is (571) 272-1127. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 6:30 AM-4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (571) 272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Katarzyna Wyrozebski
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1714

October 13, 2004

Abstract

This invention relates to a long fibre-reinforced thermoplastic material and to a method for producing long fibre-reinforced thermoplastics. According to said method, the fibers are impregnated with a first thermoplastic material. Since the matrix of the material consists of at least two different thermoplastics, the fibers being essentially only wet by one of the two thermoplastic materials, the material is considerably more variable in terms of the mechanical and other physical properties that can be obtained than known thermoplastic, long fibre-reinforced materials.